

extension in connection with this paper, and credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account 06-1205.

In response to the Office Action dated December 4, 2001 (Paper No. 21), please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 2 and 7.

Please amend Claims 3, 5, 10 and 11 to read as follows. A marked-up copy of these claims, showing the changes made thereto, is attached.

E<sup>1</sup>  
3. (Amended) An isolated DNA, comprising the nucleotide sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:1.

E<sup>2</sup>  
5. (Amended) A recombinant DNA which comprises a vector and the DNA according to claims 3 or 4.

10. (Four Times Amended) A diagnostic method for detecting an IgA nephropathy in a patient, comprising:

E<sup>3</sup>  
selecting an oligonucleotide comprising a 15 mer portion of the nucleotide sequence of DNA selected from the group consisting of DNA comprising the nucleotide sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1 and DNA which hybridizes with the nucleotide sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1 under stringent conditions;

selecting an oligonucleotide comprising a 15 mer portion of a nucleotide sequence complementary to DNA selected from the group consisting of DNA comprising the nucleotide sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1 and DNA which hybridizes with the nucleotide sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1 under stringent conditions;

using said oligonucleotides in a reverse-transcription-polymerase chain reaction to detect mRNA corresponding to the nucleotide sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1; and

determining an IgA nephropathy in said patient based on a result of said reverse-transcription-polymerase chain reaction.

11. (Four Time Amended) A diagnostic method for detecting an IgA nephropathy in a patient, comprising:

selecting an oligonucleotide comprising a 15 mer portion of a nucleotide sequence complementary to DNA selected from the group consisting of DNA comprising the nucleotide sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1 and DNA which hybridizes with the nucleotide sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1 under stringent conditions;

using said oligonucleotide in a Northern blot to detect mRNA corresponding to the nucleotide sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1; and